

CENTENNIAL BASKETBALL TOURNEY SET

It was announced today at a noon press conference that Loyola College will host the Sixth Annual Canadian Centennial Basketball Tournament. Dates are set for Monday and Tuesday, December 20 and 21 at the College's Athletic Complex. Games on the 20th are slated for 7 and 9 P.M. and on the 21st for 6:30 and 8:30 P.M.

The tournament was initiated by Loyola's Director of Physical Education and Athletics, Ed Enos, in December of 1966 as a Canadian centennial project. The event has grown each year to a point where it rates as the top holiday tournament in the country.

As in the past, the tournament will have an international flavor with two teams representing the United States as well as two Canadian entries. Each year the caliber of play has improved and this year will be no exception.

Returning to defend the Labatt trophy will be Adelphi University from Garden City, N.Y. The Panthers have lost only one starter from last year's squad and are expected to be strong contenders to repeat as champions. Leading the way for Coach Mike Gordon's club will be 6'6" Larry Anderson, last year's tourney MVP, 5'11" playmaker Bernie Portnoy, 6'4" forward John Kinsley and 6'5" Junior guard Chris Huffins.

The second U.S. aggregation will be Colgate University from Hamilton, N.Y. Colgate is regarded as a major U.S. basketball power. Their schedule includes such top teams as Army, Syracuse, Holy Cross and Cornell. Coach Ed Ashnault is relying on two big men, 6'5" captain Tom Cronin and 6'8" Rich Lebel, to lead his attack. Completing the starting unit will be 6'6" forward Bob Tyburski and two 6'1" guards, Jack Mackay and Larry Harris.

From Ontario, making their tourney debut will be Waterloo Lutheran University. The Golden Hawks captured their league title last year and are presently ranked as contenders for the National crown. Coach Don Smith's squad is led by two veterans, 6'3" All-Canadian guard Rod Dean and 6'4" forward Larry Danby. A newcomer to watch in the tournament will be 6'7" Al Brown, a transfer from Western who played with Canada's National Team for 3 years.

The host Warriors boast an 11-1 record for the young season. Coach Doug Daigneault will be counting heavily upon 6'7" Bob Breen and 6'5" Trevor Briggs to control the backboards. Other Loyola starters include 6'3" forward Greg Gill, 6' guard John Dore and 6' native Montrealer Wayne Hussey.

A vote of thanks is extended to Labatt's Brewery Ltd. for their financial support. The assistance they have given the organizers of the tournament has greatly helped Loyola's efforts to upgrade the caliber of basketball in the Province.

Presiding at the press conference were the Very Reverend Patrick G. Malone, S.J., President of Loyola College; Dr. Joseph Burke, Academic Vice-President of Loyola College; Henry Lagasse, representing the U.S. Consulate; Councillor James Bellin, representing the City of Montreal; Fred Walker, Tournament Chairman and Yvon Boudreault, Marketing Services Manager, Labatt's Brewery Ltd.

One of the highlights of the press conference was the reading of a letter from Prime Minister Trudeau endorsing the tournament and extending best wishes to the teams and organizers.

The complete text of the Prime Minister's letter is attached.

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